

Message Text

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ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 ARA-16 ISO-00 CAB-09 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRN

SUBJ: CIVAIR: GOB COMMENTS ON NEGOTIATIONS

1. CROWN COUNSEL IAN ARCHER, GOB CHIEF CIVAIR NEGOTIATOR, PROVIDED EMBOFFS JAN 11 WITH TENTATIVE LISTING OF GOB DELEGATION FOR RESUMPTION OF TALKS JAN 28 AS WELL AS OUTLINING SOME OF CONSIDERATIONS NOW IN MIND AS GOB PREPARES TO ENTER WHAT IT STRONGLY HOPES WILL BE FINAL ROUND OF CIVAIR NEGOTIATIONS. ARCHER SAID TENTATIVE GOB DELEGATION WOULD CONSIST OF HIMSELF; PM'S PERMANENT SECRETARY A.N. (FREDDIE) FORDE; MISS MARY BELL, ALSO OF PMO; IAN ALLEN, NEW GENERAL MANAGER (BRITISH) OF INTERNATIONAL CARIBBEAN AIRWAYS (ICA) PLUS REPRESENTATIVE FROM EXTERNAL AFFAIRS MINISTRY AND POSSIBLY LERIC HUNTE, ACTING DIRECTOR OF CIVIL AVIATION.

2. ARCHER ALSO MADE FOLLOWING POINTS REGARDING FORTHCOMING NEGOTIATIONS:

A) NEGOTIATING INTENT: BECAUSE OF USG NEGOTIATING POSITION (PARTICULARLY WITH REGARD TO ROUTE EXCHANGE), THERE STILL SEEMS TO BE SOME DOUBT ON GOB SIDE (AT LEAST ON ARCHER'S PART) THAT U.S. IS NEGOTIATING WITH FULL INTENTION OF REACHING AGREEMENT. ARCHER SAID HE WOULD APPRECIATE SOME SORT OF REASSURANCE THAT U.S. IS FULLY COMMITTED TO CONCLUDING

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AGREEMENT.

B) LONG OR SHORT TERM AGREEMENT: ARCHER SAID GOB WOULD APPRECIATE CLARIFICATION OF U.S. VIEWS AS TO WHETHER AGREEMENT SOUGHT WOULD BE BASED ON LONG OR SHORT TERM CONSIDERATIONS. ARCHER STATED THAT GOB HAD PREPARED ITS NEGOTIATING POSITION (E.G. ROUTE RIGHTS) WITH INTENTION OF CONCLUDING LONGER TERM AGREEMENT AND AVOIDING NECESSITY OF NEGOTIATING AGAIN IN SEVERAL YEARS. ARCHER SAID HE HAS GAINED IMPRESSION, HOWEVER, THAT U.S. HAS MORE IMMEDIATE INTERESTS IN MIND. IF GOB COULD FIND OUT WHAT SORT OF TIME FRAME U.S. IS BASING ITS POSITION ON, IT MIGHT SAVE TIME AT NEGOTIATING TABLE.

C) ARTICLE 13: ARCHER REITERATED PREVIOUS GOB POSITION ON NEED FOR MORE THAN 45 DAYS' PRIOR NOTIFICATION ON PROPOSED FARES. ARCHER MENTIONED DIFFICULTIES GOB EXPERIENCED WITH 30-DAY NOTIFICATION PERIOD UNDER U.K. AGREEMENT, CITING SEVERAL INSTANCES IN WHICH GOB HAD TO ASK FOR EXTENSION BECAUSE OF NEED TO CONSULT WITH OTHER COMMONWEALTH CARIBBEAN STATES. ARCHER HOPED THERE WOULD BE SOME FLEXIBILITY ON THIS POINT SO THAT "TALKS WOULD NOT BREAK UP ON ARTICLE 13 ISSUE."

3. ARCHER SAID IT WOULD BE USEFUL TO HAVE SOME SORT OF RESPONSE TO QUESTIONS RAISED IN PARAS. 2A AND 2B BEFORE NEGOTIATIONS RE*UME.

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